

April 7, 2009

**OBEY IN MEDFORD FOR UPDATE ON EFFORTS  
TO PRESERVE OLD CARNEGIE LIBRARY**

*Obey Secured \$45,000 in Federal Funds to Help*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) was in Medford today to see firsthand how the City is planning to use \$45,000 in federal funds that he secured in this year's budget to help preserve the historic Carnegie library building in town.

"We've had a concerted effort to try to preserve the historical character of our towns to help ensure that future generations have the opportunity to experience our past and understand our identity as a community and a nation," Obey said. "That's why over the last few years we've worked to restore the courthouses in Rhinelander, Antigo, and Merrill and now the old Carnegie library here in Medford."

The Medford Library is one of 1679 public library buildings, including 60 in Wisconsin, which benefited from Andrew Carnegie's generosity. Medford received its Carnegie grant in 1913, and construction was completed in 1916. The one story, brick building was a typical Carnegie plan with a large rectangular reading room, and centralized circulation desk.

The federal funds that Obey secured, in the form of a Save America's Treasure Grant, are intended to help the city complete refurbishing the 93 year old building with new window and doors. The Save America's Treasures Program requires a dollar-for-dollar match from the local community.

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